

Message Text

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PAGE 01 VIENNA 06055 091657Z

64

ACTION IO-03

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GENEVA FOR USDEL ECOSOC

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TAGS: AORG APER PFOR UNIDO EG (AFIFI, AZMI A.)
(GOURI, GANGADHAR S.)

SUBJ: UNIDO - SENIOR SECRETARIAT APPOINTMENTS

SUMMARY - PROMOTION OF AFIFI HAS BEEN APPROVED AND SENIOR INDIAN NATIONAL, GANGADHAR GOURI, HAS BEEN SHIFTED TO AFIFI'S FORMER POST AS DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF ITD. AFIFI PROMOTION HAS OCCASIONED SPECULATION THAT ABDEL-RAHMAN SEEKING CONSOLIDATE EGYPTIAN INFLUENCE IN UNIDO BEFORE DEPARTING ON DEC 31, 1974.
END SUMMARY

1. UNIDO HAS RECEIVED WORD FROM UN HEADQUARTERS THAT PROMOTION OF AZMI A. AFIFI (ARE) TO D-2 AND HIS APPOINTMENT AS SENIOR ADVISER TO ABDEL-RAHMAN HAVE BEEN APPROVED. (EXEC DIRECTOR'S SENIOR ADVISER HAS TRADITIONALLY BEEN COMBINATION DE FACTO DEPUTY EXEC DIRECTOR, SPECIAL ASSISTANT AND CHIEF OF STAFF;
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PAGE 02 VIENNA 06055 091657Z

UNDER AFIFI, AT LEAST AS LONG AS A-R REMAINS, EMPHASIS MAY BE

ON ACTING AS DE FACTOR DEP EXEC DIRECTOR.) CONCURRENTLY, A-R IS MOVING LONG-TIME UNIDO STAFF MEMBER GANGADHAR S. GOURI (INDIA/D-1), FROM POST OF CHIEF OF COORDINATION AND EXTERNAL RELATIONS SECTION TO AFIFI'S FORMER POST, DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY DIVISION (ITD). LATTER SHIFT MADE WITHOUT CONSULTATION WITH ITD DIRECTOR (G. VELIKY, USSR/D-2), WHO APPEARS UNHAPPY ABOUT HIS NEW ACQUISITION AND ABOUT AFIFI'S NEW ROLE. IDENTITY OF FUTURE INCUMBENT OF GOURI'S OLD POST NOT YET KNOWN TO US.

2. PROMOTION OF AFIFI, AS DEPT AND USUN RECALL, PROPOSED BY A-R TO WALKHEIM AT SAME TIME FORMER PROPOSED BARBOSA FOR DIRECTOR OF ADMIN AND AN AMERICAN (REPORTEDLY NAPOLIELLO) TO BE DIRECTOR OF DIVISION OF INDUSTRIAL SERVICES AND INSTITUTIONS (ISI). LOCAL RUMOR HAS IT THAT A-R WENT ALL OUT ON AFIFI PROMOTION WHEN FACED WITH PROSPECT OF APPOINTMENT OF FINDLEY BURNS AND TRANSFER OF BARBOSA TO GENEVA. REPORTEDLY, WHILE CONTINUING OPPOSE BURNS APPOINTMENT, A-R MADE HIS RELEASE OF BARBOSA CONTINGENT ON SYG'S PROMOTION OF AFIFI.

3. WE HAVE ALOS HEARD,BUT FROM UNCERTAIN SOURCE, THAT NAPOLIELLO HAS NOW BEEN APPROVED BY NY TO BE DIRECTOR OF ISI. IT WOULD BE HELPFUL TO HAVE SITREP ON THIS FROM USUN.

4. GOURI HAD LONG WANTED REASSIGNMENT TO POST WITH MORE RESPONSIBILITY AND HAD EARLIER SOUGHT DEP DIRECTOR POST UNDER STEPANEK IN ISI. HIS TECHNICAL QUALIFICATIONS APPEAR QUALIFY HIM FOR HIS NEW ASSIGNMETN, AND IF VELIKY GIVES HIM REAL ROLE AS DEPUTY HE MAY OVERCOME PERSONAL CHARACTERISTICS THAT IN HIS PAST ASSIGNMENT MADE HIM RATHER UNPOPULAR AMONG HIS COLLEAGUES, E.G. INTRUSION INTO OTHERS' DOMAINS, BUREAUCRATIC FUSSINESS, REPUTATION AS INTRIGUER AND GOSSIP.

5. UNIDO STAFF SPECULATION COMES DOWN ON SIDE THAT ABDEL-RAHMAN SEEKING TO STRENGTHEN EGYPTIAN POSITION IN ORGANIZATION PRIOR HIS DEPARTURE, ALTHOUGH MINORITY BELIEVE THAT ADVANCEMENT OF AFIFI AND OTHER EGYPTIANS FURTHER INDICATION THAT A-R RECONSIDERING HIS DECISIONNOT STAND FOR REAPPOINTMENT; IN ANY EVENT HIS CO-NATIONALS AT UNIDO APPEAR BE ACTIVELY ENCOURAGING HIS CONTINUATION.

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PAGE 03 VIENNA 06055 091657Z

6. EGYPTIANS HAVE FOR SOME YEARS BEEN BEYOND THEIR RANGE OF GEOGRAPHIC REPRESENTATION IN UN AND FIVE PROCESSIONALS THEREOF ARE PRESENTLY ASSIGNED TO UNIDO. (EGYPTIANS ALSO DO DISPROTPORTIONATELY WELL IN WINNING APPOINTMENTS AS UNIDO FIELD EXPERTS.) WE INCLINED SUPPORT SPECULATION THAT A-R IS AT LEAST CONSOLIDATING EGYPTIAN POSITION IN UNIDO, BUT HE APPEARS BE DOING SO PRINCIPALLY BY RELOCATING PRESENT STAFF IN MORE INFLUENTIAL POSTS,

WHETHER FOR REASONS OF PERSONAL OR NATIONAL LOYALTY. THUS, AFIFI HAS HIS PROMOTION AND NEW ROLE; LEILA DOSS, PROMOTED A YEAR AGO TO D-1, REMAINS AS CHIEF OF THE INFORMATION SERVICE (AND DE FACTO INTELLIGENCE AGENT OF AND PERSONAL ASSISTANT TO A-R); AND EGYPTIAN SIDFA, MR. EL-HALFAWY, IS BEING BROUGHT FROM BEIRUT TO VIENNA TO BECOME AN INTER-REGIONAL FIELD ADVISER (NOT SUBJECT TO REGULAR UN STAFF RECRUITMENT REGULATIONS) IN THE FERTILIZERS, PESTICIDES AND PETROCHEMICALS INDUSTRIES SECTION--IN THE LIKELY EVENT OF THE PRESENT SECTION CHIEF (MALIYIL C. VERGHESE, INDIA/D-1) BECOMING SIDFA AT SRI LANKA, EL-HALFAWY IS LIKELY BE MADE ACTING CHIEF OF SECTION; ANOTHER EGYPTIAN STAFF MEMBER, M. HAMDY (P-4), HAS BEEN MADE CHIEF OF A NEWLY CREATED UNIT IN ITD V (VIENNA A-319), AND AS GS-8, MISS NADIA HASBANI, WAS NAMED TO REPLACE A RETIRING BRITISH P-3 AS OFFICER IN CHARGE OF GS-LEVEL SECRETARIAT RECRUITMENT. ADLY ABDEL-MEGUID (P-5) REMAINS, OF COURSE, AT THE NEW YORK LIAISON OFFICE. (ON OTHER HAND, ABDEL-RAHMAN HAS ACCEDDED TO DESIRE OF GAMAL ELEISH, P-5 CHIEF OF INDUSTRIAL SURVEY SECTION, TO SEEK TRANSFER FOR PERSONAL REASONS TO NEW YORK AND THIS IS IN PROCESS.) AFTER DISCRETE CHECKING, WE UNABLE IDENTIFY ANY OTHER EGYPTIANS PRESENTLY UNDER RECRUITMENT. STIBRAVY

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